



## Ngā mihi o te wā me te Tau Hou

### Season's Greetings - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



As my first full year as Ambassador draws to a close, I marvel at the degree to which 2010 has been a year of great contrasts ....

*Geographically*, I traveled from Samoa in January to the South Pole in December. In between, I visited – in some cases many times – Waitangi, Whangerei, Auckland, Hamilton, Taupo, Foxton, Levin, Palmerston North, Greytown, Martinborough, Porirua, almost every nook and cranny of Greater Wellington, Christchurch, Akaroa, Queenstown, Dunedin, Gore, Edendale, Invercargill, and Bluff. I

climbed a mountain, white-water rafted, cruised with Hector dolphins, held a Kiwi (bird), ate Bluff oysters straight from the sea, sat with Emperor penguins, lugged, hiked, kayaked, participated in more than 2,400 meetings, and engaged with students, professors, and administrators at all eight universities in New Zealand and the two universities in Samoa.

*Emotionally*, there were exhilarating highs such as the exuberant celebration of diversity in our Independence Day receptions, and the visit of our inspiring Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. I was buoyed by the great warmth, openness, and hospitality of the thousands of Kiwis whom I have met on my travels, and I was deeply grateful for the way in which Dr. McWaine and I were so quickly and graciously welcomed to our new home. Also, though, there were deep lows such as the mine disaster in Greymouth and the loss of servicemen in Afghanistan.

*Substantively*, 2010 brought unprecedented levels of engagement and creativity as the bilateral relationship deepened and expanded across the board. The Embassy launched an ambitious whole-of-society program; refocused its resources on priorities such as youth, education, and science; launched a score of new projects; significantly increased the number of Kiwis sent back to the U.S. on exchange or visitor programs; supported important steps forward in security and trade relations; and laid a roadmap for continued momentum in the Wellington Declaration. We hosted more official visitors from America than ever before, including Secretary Clinton, civil rights experts, climate change specialists, [Contd. Page 17](#)



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## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **Wellington Declaration on a New Strategic Partnership between New Zealand and the United States** *U.S. Dept. of State*, November 4, 2010.

Minister of Foreign Affairs for New Zealand Murray McCully and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton met to reaffirm the close ties between their two nations and to establish the framework of a new U.S.-NZ strategic partnership to shape future practical cooperation and political dialogue. This partnership is to have two fundamental elements: a new focus on practical cooperation in the Pacific region; and enhanced political and subject-matter expert dialogue.

### **U.S. Chair Statement: Trans-Pacific Workshop on Interagency Cooperation on Dismantling Illicit Transnational Networks** Statement by David M. Luna, Director for Anticrime Programs, *U.S. Dept of State*, in Christchurch, New Zealand, November 17, 2010.

### **Trans-Pacific Partnership: Progress Towards a Regional Agreement** *White House*, November 14, 2010.

The leaders of the nine *Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)* countries met on the margins of the *APEC Leaders* meeting to welcome the progress their teams had made on trade talks aimed at negotiating a regional trade deal and resolved to seek to conclude the agreement as swiftly as possible. They reaffirmed their objective of negotiating an agreement that addresses new and emerging trade issues and the 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges their businesses and workers face. The Leaders noted that the *TPP* is now the most advanced pathway to Asia-Pacific regional economic integration and reiterated their goal of expanding the initial group of countries out in stages to other countries across the region, which represents more than half of global output and over 40% of world trade.

### **The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement** by Ian Fergusson & Bruce Vaughn. *CRS*, Nov., 1, 2010. 20p.

The economic and strategic architectures of Asia are evolving. One part of this evolving architecture is the *Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)*, a free trade agreement that includes nations on both sides of the Pacific. The existing TPP, which originally came into effect in 2006, consists of Brunei, Chile, New Zealand, and Singapore. The United States, Australia, Peru, and Vietnam have committed themselves to joining and expanding this group.

### **Positive Outcome from Fourth Round of Trans-Pacific Partnership Negotiations** *Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR)*, December 10, 2010.

The U.S. and the other *Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)* countries – Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam – concluded the fourth round of negotiations in Auckland on the 10<sup>th</sup> December, continuing to make progress across the range of issues under discussion.

### **U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Melanne Vermeer Announces New Initiative to Strengthen Women's Empowerment in the Pacific in Partnership with the World Bank Group and the Governments of Australia, New Zealand, & Papua New Guinea** *U.S. Dept of State*, Nov., 8, 2010.

In follow-up to Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton's recent travel to East Asia and the Pacific, and as part of the U.S. strategy to deepen investment in women in the region, Ambassador-At-Large Vermeer released a new Initiative which will comprise several new partnerships to identify opportunities for developing more effective programs and policy recommendations to support women's advancement in the Asia Pacific region.

### **The Obama Administration's Deepening Engagement Throughout Oceania** by Gerard Finin in *Asia Pacific Bulletin*, *East-West Center*, March 18, 2010.

Finin, Senior Fellow and Deputy Director of the Pacific Islands Development Program at the East-West Center, explains that "for both strategic and economic reasons, the entire Pacific Islands regions remains highly important to the U.S."

### **AUSMIN 2010 Joint Communiqué** Melbourne, Australia. *U.S. Dept. of State* November 8, 2010.

The talks marked the 25th anniversary of AUSMIN and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The 2010 AUSMIN confirmed the enduring value of the Australia-U.S.

Alliance and its adaptability in meeting contemporary and evolving strategic challenges. The two countries reaffirmed that strengthened architecture in the Asia-Pacific region is fundamental to security and economic prosperity, and welcomed the expansion of the *East Asia Summit (EAS)*, to include the participation of the U.S. from 2011.

**Will Post-Elections Australia Pursue a Course Independent of the United States?** by Michael Sutton. *East-West Center*, October 21, 2010.

Australians went to the polls on August 21, 2010, and voted for the first hung parliament since the end of World War II. This development presents unique challenges to national governance and foreign policy. Sutton examines what the recent elections in Australia mean for the US-Australia relations.

**Indonesia: Follow-up to the President's Cairo Speech** *White House*, November 9, 2010.

In Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim-majority country, the vision the President articulated in his June 2009 speech in Cairo is flourishing. There continues to be significant progress in the areas of science and technology, entrepreneurship, education and exchanges, regional democracy promotion, and interfaith dialogue. The burgeoning U.S. Comprehensive Partnership with Indonesia embodies how the United States is implementing the President's vision for a New Beginning.

**The Obama Administration's European Agenda** Speech by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Philip H. Gordon, November 17, 2010.

President Obama recognizes that there is no better partner for the U.S. than Europe, "where we work with democratic, prosperous, militarily-capable allies who share our values and share our interests. We face a daunting international agenda that cannot be handled by any one nation alone, and that is why we so often turn to Europe as our partner of first and best resort."

**Military Escalation in Korea: Contingency Planning Memorandum No. 10** by Paul B. Stares. *CFR*, November 2010.

Further provocations by North Korea as well as other dangerous military interactions on or around the Korean peninsula remain a serious risk and carry the danger of unintended escalation. Changes underway in North Korea could precipitate new tensions and herald a prolonged period of instability that raises the possibility of military intervention by outside powers.

**Can China Afford to Confront the World? – Part I** by Jonathan Fenby. *YaleGlobal*, November 25, 2010.

China's emersion into free-market capitalism was gradual and cautious. Now the world's second largest economy, China often clashes with its largest trade partner, the U.S., most recently over currency revaluation measures at the G20 meeting in Seoul. The series analyzes China's new assertiveness, both regionally and with the U.S., and the directions this can take.

**The Anatomy of Japan's Shifting Security Orientation** by Tsuyoshi Sunohara in *Washington Quarterly*, October 2010.

This senior writer with the Japanese newspaper Nikkei, presents an historical overview of the U.S.-Japan security relationship which many consider to be slowly downgrading in order to curry favor with China. Sunohara opines that in order to improve the situation, both the U.S. and Japan need to "change the way each views the other." Japan needs to increase defense spending and embrace collective self-defense, and the U.S. needs to understand that "the fissures beginning to appear in the alliance's underlying foundation are deeply rooted."

**A Moment for U.N. Security Council Reform** by Stewart M. Patrick. *CFR*, November 8, 2010.

Patrick opines that it is time the President launched a comprehensive plan for Security Council enlargement, based on clear criteria for permanent membership. He says the rationale for expanding the UN Security Council's permanent membership is powerful. To be effective and legitimate, the world's premier watchdog for international peace and security must reflect the contemporary distribution of power, so that it enjoys the political support (and draws on the resources) of the world's most capable states.

**2010 Report on International Religious Freedom** *U.S. Dept of State*, November 17, 2010. **Remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton / New Zealand**

Annually, the State Department prepares a comprehensive review of the status of religious freedom in countries and territories around the world. This is carried out because it believes that religious freedom is both a fundamental human right and an essential element to any stable, peaceful, thriving society.

**An End to Human Trafficking** Op-ed by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, November 9, 2010. It is especially important for governments to protect the most vulnerable – women and children – who are more likely to be victims of trafficking. They are not just the targets of sex traffickers, but also labor traffickers, and they make up a majority of those trapped in forced labor.

**15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dayton Peace Accords** Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, November 20, 2010.

Fifteen years ago this November 21st, world leaders initialed the Dayton Peace Accords at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, bringing an end to the devastating war in Bosnia and Herzegovina that claimed more than 100,000 lives and displaced millions. The Dayton Agreement is a cornerstone of peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina today.

**Kosovo: The Next Steps** by Daniel Serwer. *U.S. Institute of Peace*, November 2010. 4p.

A small group of experienced American Balkans hands met in October at the U.S. Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C. to discuss the situation and the way forward. A summary of the discussion.

**Countering Radicalization in America: Lessons from Europe** by Lorenzo Vidino. *USIP*, Nov., 2010. 16p.

In response to the recent surge in the number of American Muslims involved in terrorist activities, several agencies in the U.S. government have begun devising a comprehensive counter radicalization strategy. In doing so, they are following the lead of certain European countries that have invested significant human, financial, and political capital in counter radicalization programs.

**The Arab Tomorrow** by David Ottoway in the *Wilson Quarterly*, Winter 2010. 17p.

As a foreign correspondent for The Washington Post, Ottoway was on the scene in 1981 when Islamic extremists assassinated Anwar Sadat because of his peace overtures with Israel. He saw the emergence of Hosni Mubarak as Sadat's successor, and provides an analysis of the direction of the Arab world as the era of Mubarak closes. He sees two possible futures for the Arab nations: "the highly materialistic emirate state obsessed with visions of Western-style modernity and the strict Islamic one fixed on resurrecting the Qur'an's dictates espoused by fundamentalists and Al Qaeda."

**Millennium Challenge Corporation** *CRS*, November 16, 2010. 37p.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) provides economic assistance through a competitive selection process to developing nations that are pursuing political and economic reforms in three areas: ruling justly, investing in people, and fostering economic freedom.

**Clinton's Remarks on the First Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review** Essential Documents. *CFR*, December 15, 2010.

The QDDR is a blueprint for how the State Department and *USAID* can become more nimble, effective, and more accountable. This is a blueprint for how the U.S. can lead in a changing world through the use of what the Secretary of State calls "civilian power" – the combined force of civilians across the U.S. Government who practice diplomacy, carry out development projects, and act to prevent and respond to crisis and conflict.

***Some online resources which may be of interest:***

**Remarks at the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award Ceremony** Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton *U.S. Dept. of State*, December 10, 2010 **[View / Listen](#)**

**America's Most Committed Muslim Ally** by W. Andrew Terrill. *Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College*, November 2010. 2p.

**The United States' Relationship with the European Union: An Enduring Partnership** Fact sheet. White House, November 20, 2010.

**President Obama's Participation in the NATO Summit Meetings in Lisbon** Fact Sheet. *White House*, November 20, 2010.

**Executive Order – Fundamental Principles and Policymaking Criteria for Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations** *White House*, November 17, 2010. **See also**

**Assessing Obama's Asia Tour** Analyses by Sheila A. Smith et al. *CFR*, November 15, 2010.

**U.S. Leadership More Popular in Asia than China's, India's** *Gallup*, November 5, 2010.

**President Obama's Asian Agenda** Views of five experts. *CFR*, November 4, 2010.

**What America Must Do for Iraq** by Joseph Biden - *Office of the Vice President, White House*, November 21, 2010. Op-Ed in *New York Times*.

**The Transition to a Civilian-Led U.S. Presence in Iraq: Issues and Challenges** Hearing before the *U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs*, November 18, 2010. **Transcripts** and scroll down.

**Iraqi Government Coalition Agreement** Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, on *State.gov*, November 12, 2010.

**Passing of Richard Holbrooke** - Secretary Clinton *U.S. Dept. of State*, December 13, 2010.

"Richard served the country he loved for nearly half a century, representing the United States in far-flung war-zones and high-level peace talks, always with distinctive brilliance and unmatched determination."

**Statement from President Obama on the Passing of Veteran United States Diplomat Richard Holbrooke** Statement, December 13, 2010. Statement by **Vice President Biden**

**After Holbrooke, New Afghan Tests** Analysis brief by Jayshree Bajoria. *CFR*, December 14, 2010.

**Holbrooke's Death Leaves Major Void in Obama's Afghan Strategy** *Washington Post*, Dec., 14, 2010.

**President Obama on the Afghanistan-Pakistan Annual Review: "A Very Difficult Endeavor" but "Significant Progress"** *The White House*, December 16, 2010.

**The War in Afghanistan: Key Trends in the Fighting and ANSF Development in the November 2010 1230 Report** by Anthony H. Cordesman. *CSIS*, November 24, 2010. 21p.

**Realignment: Managing a Stable Transition to Afghan Responsibility: Recommendations for the United States and its Allies** *Center for American Progress*, November 2010. 39p.

**Declaration by Heads of State and Government of the Nations Contributing to the UN-Mandated, NATO-Led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan** November 20, 2010.

**Declaration by NATO and the Government of Afghanistan on an Enduring Partnership** Nov.20'10.

**Rethinking an Afghanistan Exit Strategy** Richard Armitage interviewed - B. Gwertzman. *CFR*, Nov.,12'10.

**Special Briefing on Trip to Afghanistan** by Richard Holbrooke, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, October 29, 2010.

**Afghanistan: Politics, Elections, and Government Performance** *CRS*, September 14, 2010. 35p.



**The Iran Stalemate and the Need for Strategic Patience** by Barbara Slavin. *Atlantic Council of the United States*, November 8, 2010. 16p.

**Peace Corps Reaches 40-Year High in Number of Volunteers** Peace Corps, October 28, 2010.

**The Global Poverty Paradox** by Nicholas N. Eberstadt. *Commentary*, October 2010.

**Homeland Security Digital Library** *Naval Postgrad. School Center for Homeland Defense & Security*.

## **East Asia:**

**Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress** CRS, October 6, 2010.

**The United States and APEC: Achieving Growth and Prosperity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** Fact sheet. *U.S. Dept of State*, November 5, 2010.

**Burma's Elections** Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, November 7, 2010

**The U.S. and Indonesia – Building a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Partnership** Fact Sheet *U.S. Dept of State*, Nov., 9'10.

**North Korea's 2009 Nuclear Test: Containment, Monitoring, Implications** CRS, November 24, 2010.

**Uranium and Artillery: North Korean Revelations and Provocations. Q&A** CSIS, November 24, 2010.

**Understanding and Confronting North Korea** by Michael E. O'Hanlon. *Brookings*, November 23, 2010.

**Don't Rush Back to the Six-Party Talks: A Call for Vigilant Disregard** by Ho-Jin Lee. *Brookings*, November 23, 2010.

**North Korea: U.S. Relations, Nuclear Diplomacy, and Internal Situation.** CRS, November 10, 2010.

**Will China Prevent a Korean War No One Wants?** by Michael Mazza. *AEI, The Enterprise Blog*, November 23, 2010.

**U.S.-South Korea Relations** CRS, November 3, 2010.

**The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development** Human Development Report 2010. *UN Development Programme*, 2010. Note: 236p.

## **South Asia**

**Prioritizing Strategic Interests in South Asia** by Robert Oakley & T.X. Hammes. *INSS*, June, 2010.

The focus on the war in Afghanistan has prevented the U.S. from developing a South Asia strategy rooted in the strategic importance of the nations in the region. India, a stable democracy enjoying rapid growth, has the most potential as a strategic partner. Pakistan, as the home of al Qaeda leadership and over 60 nuclear weapons, is the greatest threat to regional stability and growth. Yet Afghanistan absorbs the vast majority of U.S. effort in the region. The authors argue that making economic growth and social reform essential to the stability of Pakistan a higher priority than the conflict in Afghanistan is a core requirement.

**India-U.S. Relations** by K. Alan Kronstadt et al. CRS, October 27, 2010. 64p.

Long considered a "strategic backwater" from Washington's perspective, South Asia emerged in the 21st century as increasingly vital to core U.S. foreign policy interests. India is often characterized as a nascent great power and "indispensable partner" of the U.S., one that many analysts view as a potential counterweight to China's growing clout. The two countries now engage in numerous and unprecedented combined military exercises, and major U.S. arms sales to India are underway.

**Joint statement by President Obama and Prime Minister Singh of India** *White House*, Nov., 2010.

**Remarks by President Obama to the U.S. - India Business Council and Entrepreneurship Summit**  
November 8, 2010.

**A Closer U.S.-India Embrace** by Jayshree Bajoria. *CFR*, November 8, 2010.

**The U.S.-India Relationship** by Eswar Prasad & Karim Foda. *Brookings*, November 4, 2010.

**The U.S.-India Partnership** Fact Sheets. *White House*, November 8, 2010.

**India and China Take Different Roads to World Leadership - Part I** by Shyam Saran. *YaleGlobal* online, November 1, 2010 (on India)

**India and China Take Different Roads to World Leadership - Part II** by Frank Ching. *YaleGlobal* online, November 3, 2010 (on China)

**On the Issues: U.S.-Pakistan-India** by Moeed Yusuf. *USIP*, November 2010.

## **Nuclear Deterrence**

**An Enduring Commitment to the U.S. Nuclear Deterrent** Fact Sheet. *White House*, November 17, 2010.

President Obama has made an extraordinary commitment to ensure the modernization of America's nuclear infrastructure, which had been neglected for years before he took office. Today, the Administration demonstrates that commitment with the release of its plans to invest more than \$85 billion over the next decade to modernize the U.S. nuclear weapons complex that supports our deterrent. This represents a \$4.1 billion increase over the next five years. This level of funding is unprecedented since the end of the Cold War.

**New START: Critical Limits on U.S. Missile Defense Options Persist** by Baker Spring. *Heritage*, November 10, 2010.

New START limits U.S. missile defense options at two levels. The first level is the essential context within which the treaty exists and that permits the treaty to be viable and effective. The second level is within the text of the treaty itself, where there are several direct limitations regarding missile defense.

**Let's Get Back to Work with Russia: We Need New START in Force** Op-ed by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller, in *The Hill*, November 30, 2010.

**Statement from the Vice President on the New START Treaty** *White House*, November 16, 2010.

**Toward Deeper Reductions in U.S. and Russian Nuclear Weapons** Special report by Micah Zenko. *CFR Press*, November 2010. 48p.

**Engagement, Coercion, and Iran's Nuclear Challenge** *USIP*, November 2010.

**Proliferation Control Regimes: Background and Status** *CRS*, October 18, 2010.

**Report of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on the New START Treaty**, October 1, 2010. Note: 141p.

**Assessing Progress on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament: 2009-2010 Report Card** *Arms Control Association*, October 2010. 79p.

## **TRADE / ECONOMY**

**2010 APEC Japan** Yokohama, November 14, 2010. / **APEC USA 2011** Honolulu, November 2011.

**The Yokohama Vision – Bogor & Beyond / Leaders' Statement on 2010 Bogor Goals Assessment / The APEC Leaders' Growth Strategy / Pathways to a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific / 17<sup>th</sup> APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting Joint Ministerial Statement** November 6, 2010.

**Regional Trade Blocs: The Way to the Future?** by Alijandro Foxley, *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, September 2010, 65p.

Foxley, a Carnegie International Economist, analyzes how three regions, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and East Asia, are increasing trade within their borders and building a broader free trade system.

**Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) and the Role of Congress in Trade Policy** CRS, November 4, 2010. 22p.

Debate on TPA renewal may center on clarifying key aspects of: the congressional role in making trade policy; Congress's oversight of trade negotiations; trade agreement enforcement; and further refinement of trade negotiation objectives on labor, environment, and public health issues.

**Utilizing Trade Policy to Help Small Businesses Export and Create Jobs: Key Findings from the USITC Reports on SMEs** Fact sheet, *Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR)*, November 9, 2010 (*USITC* is the U.S. International Trade Commission).

Recognizing that small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy, in October 2009, USTR launched an initiative to enable *SMEs* to grow their businesses through international trade. An agency-wide working group is ensuring that policymaking and enforcement better serve small- and medium-sized enterprises.

**The U.S. Produce Industry and Labor: Facing the Future in a Global Economy** *Economic Research Service, U.S. Dept of Agriculture*, November 2010. 57p. **Summary**

The U.S. fruit and vegetable industry is labor intensive, faces higher labor rates than many other countries, and operates in a global economy with relatively free trade. Currently, labor makes up almost half of the production expenses for U.S. fruit and vegetable farms. As a result, efforts to reduce labor costs are an ongoing challenge for U.S. producers.

**Americans Are of Two Minds on Trade: More Trade, Mostly Good; Free Trade Pacts, Not So** *Pew Research Center*, November 9, 2010.

The public is of two minds when it comes to trade with other countries. Most Americans say that increased trade with Canada, Japan and European Union countries - as well as India, Brazil and Mexico - would be good for the U.S. But reactions are mixed to increased trade with South Korea and China. There is increased skepticism about the impact of trade agreements such as NAFTA and the policies of the World Trade Organization.

**The Globalization of Ideas** by Anthony Landry. Fed. Reserve Bank of Dallas, *Economic Letter*, Nov., '10.

Ideas, like goods and services, flow across borders and their globalization is well under way. ; Quantifying that flow is difficult; however, patent filings can provide indirect evidence on the production of ideas. Further, cross-border patenting can help trace the flow of ideas. Landry explains idea production and the countries in which exports and imports of ideas have grown substantially.

**Deficits and Foreign Policy Dilemmas** Analysis brief by Robert McMahon. *CFR*, November 18, 2010.

New reports issued independently by commission members outline an urgent need for broad and deep cutbacks on long-sacred domestic and foreign policy programs. The stark measures are warranted, each report stressed, because of the national security consequences of inadequate action.

**The Macroeconomics of U.S. Defense Spending** by Anthony Cordesman et al. *CSIS*, Nov.'9, 2010. 63p.

The U.S. faces growing pressures on its defense spending, and as it is still dealing with two ongoing wars, it has a very different role in global power projection than its allies. Cordesman maintains that, so far, it has not made realistic efforts to project the cost of these wars in its defense budget, and the Afghan war is almost certain to put major new pressure on the defense budget in FY2012 and beyond.



**Some Trade/Economics resources which may be of interest:**

**The Economic Outlook** by John C. Williams, executive vice president and director of research, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, November 15, 2010.

**Belt-Tightening for U.S. Foreign Policy** Interview with Michael Mandelbaum. *CFR*, December 2, 2010.

**Five Myths About Cutting the Deficit** by William G. Gale. Brookings, November 29, 2010.

**Around the Halls: Reducing the Budget Deficit** *Brookings*, November 12, 2010.

**Getting Back in the Black: A Report of the Peterson-Pew Commission on Budget Reform**, November 2010. 48p. An earlier report, **Red Ink Rising** was published in December 2009.

**Financial Reform** Remarks by U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Michael S. Barr before the American Bar Association's Banking Law Committee, November 5, 2010.

**Who in the U.S. Sends and Receives Remittances? An Initial Analysis of the Money Transfer Data from the August 2008 CPS Migration Supplement** *Census Bureau* working paper, November 2010.

**The Federal Government's Long-Term Fiscal Outlook: Fall 2010 Update** *GAO*, November 2010. 13p.

**Five Surprises of the Great Recession** by Uri Dadush & Vera Eidelman. *CEIP*, November 2010. 12p. **Summary**

**How to Cut \$343 Billion from the Federal Budget** by Brian Riedl. *Heritage*, October 28, 2010.

**Tax Havens: International Tax Avoidance and Evasion** *CRS*, September 3, 2010.

**The Rising Burden of Government Debt** by Eswar Prasad & Mengjie Ding. *Brookings*, November 1, 2010.

**Theoretically, How Long is This Recovery Supposed to Take Anyway?** by Pedro Amaral. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, *Economic Trends*, November 10, 2010.

**U.S., Participants Finalize Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement Text** News release, *Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR)*, November 15, 2010.

**Gridlock on U.S. Economic Policy** Interview with Peter R. Orszag. *CFR*, November 5, 2010.

**'One Country, Two Systems': China's Renminbi Strategy** by Paola Subacchi. *Chatham House* (London), October 2010

**Out of Whack – the Renminbi** by Owen F. Humpage & Beth Mowry. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, *Economic Trends*, October 25, 2010.

**Patented in China: The Present and Future State of Innovation in China** by Eve Y. Zhou & Bob Stembridge. *Thomson Reuters*, 2010. 22p.

**China's Economy Has Shifted Focus: Moving Away from Traditional Agricultural and Manufacturing Toward Innovation-Oriented Activities** *Thomson Reuters*, 2010. 28p.

**U.S. Hosts Third Meeting of the U.S.-China Forum on Combating Illegal Logging and Associated Trade** *Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR)*, November 9, 2010.

**ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY**

**Climate Innovation Centers: A New Way to Foster Climate Technologies in the Developing World?** on *InfoDev*, November 2010. Note: 70p.

Innovation in emerging technologies is essential to help reduce the current and long-term impacts of climate change. However developing countries, which are most immediately threatened by these impacts, lag in their

capacity to transfer, develop and deploy these technologies. This report explores how *Climate Innovation Centers (CICs)* can help developing countries accelerate the deployment of climate technologies.

**A High-Risk Energy Boom Sweeps Across North America** by Keith Schneider in *Yale Environment 360*, September 30, 2010.

The author, a contributor to the New York Times, writes that energy companies are investing huge sums of money into developing new sources of fossil fuels across the Western U.S. and Canada. Schneider is concerned that the explosion in unconventional energy extraction “raises a troubling question – at a time when the country should be embracing a renewable energy revolution, it is hurtling in the opposite direction.”

**The Great Battery Race** by Steve LeVine in *Foreign Policy*, November.

A 19<sup>th</sup>-century technology could determine which nation triumphs in the 21<sup>st</sup>. Steve LeVine reports on the global competition to replace the combustion engine.

**Confronting Environmental Treaty Implementation Challenges in the Pacific Islands** by Pamela S. Chasek. *Pacific Islands Policy, East-West Center*, 2010.

This paper outlines the difficulties Pacific Island states have in fulfilling their international commitments, how they can better address the challenges, and the roles which the donor community, regional organizations, the United Nations system, and nongovernmental organizations can play in this regard.

**A Quick Fix for Climate Change?** by Michael Richardson. *YaleGlobal*, November 8, 2010.

Spewing particles into the skies to block sunlight, and releasing chemicals into the oceans to encourage plankton growth and carbon absorption, are examples of how geo-engineering technologies might ease impacts of climate change. The interventions, still being tested, would be temporary and costly, warns Richardson. The technologies could cross borders, damage habitat, and pose other unintended consequences. Unchecked emissions could eventually cost about 5% of global GDP.

**Reducing Urban Water Use** by Lester Brown. *Earth Policy Institute Book Bytes*, November 3, 2010.

Brown argues that using water to wash away human and industrial wastes is an “outmoded system, made obsolete by new technologies and water shortages.” Our modern “flush and forget” system disrupts the nutrient cycle by removing nutrients in the soil and dumping them in the sewer system.

***Some environmental resources which may be of interest:***

**Presidential Proclamation: 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Environmental Protection Agency** *White House*, December 2, 2010.

**The Cancun Agreements** Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. *US Dept. of State*, December 11’10.

**UN Climate Change Conference in Cancun** Briefing by Todd Stern, U.S. Special Climate Change Envoy, December 14’10.

**Cancun Outcome a Modest Step Forward** “First take” analysis by Michael A. Levi, *CFR*, December 11, 2010.

**Evaluating Limits on Participation and Transactions in Markets for Emissions Allowances** *CBO*, December 2010. 25p.

**Engineering the Climate: Research Needs and Strategies for International Coordination** Report by Chairman Bart Gordon, *U.S. House Committee on Science and Technology*, October 2010. 56p.

**Green Dragons: The Politics of Climate Change in Asia** *CSIS*, November 2010. Note: 110p.

**Cooperation or Confrontation on Clean Energy? A Proposed Agenda for the New Congress and the President** by Daniel J. Weiss. *Center for American Progress*, November 3, 2010.

**Investing in Clean Energy: How to Maximize Clean Energy Deployment from International Climate Investments** *Center for American Progress and Global Climate Network*, November 2010. 58p.

**Water Security: National and Global Issues Summary** *U.S. Geological Survey*, November 2010. 6p.

**NOAA Announces Environmental Literacy Grants for Science Education** *NOAA, U.S. Dept of Commerce*, November 2, 2010.

**Environmental Laws: Summaries of Major Statutes Administered by the EPA** *CRS*, October 8, 2010. Note: 123p.

**U.S. Drought Portal** – *National Integrated Drought Information System*

## **SOCIETY**

**Outlook 2011** in *The Futurist*, November/December.

In the next 10 to 30 years, society will have to learn to deal with "peak everything"- an epoch of critical scarcities of a broad range of resources. Unexpected sources of expertise e.g. physicists advising us about the economy – are predicted to guide us through hard times.

**Because I am a Girl: The State of the World's Girls 2010; Digital and Urban Frontiers: Girls in a Changing Landscape** by Nikki van der Gaag et al. *U.N. Human Settlements Programme*. 2010. Note: 199p.

Despite all the threats that girls face in digital and urban spaces, the report finds that the best way to support their wellbeing and development, and to continue the fight against poverty, is to equip them with the skills to navigate the threats so they can make the most of the opportunities that are available to them. This requires that those in positions of power do their utmost to remove the barriers that prevent girls making the most of these opportunities.

**The Decline of Marriage and Rise of New Families** *Pew Research Center*, November 18, 2010. Note: 121p. **Summary**

The transformative trends of the past 50 years that have led to a sharp decline in marriage and a rise of new family forms have been shaped by attitudes and behaviors that differ by class, age and race, according to a new Pew Research Center nationwide survey.

**Unauthorized Immigrants and Their U.S.-Born Children** by Jeffrey Passel. *Pew Hispanic Center*, August 11, 2010.

An estimated 340,000 of the 4.3 million babies born in the U.S. in 2008 were the offspring of unauthorized immigrants, according to a new analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data which includes the fact that nearly 79% of the 5.1 million children younger than age 18 of unauthorized immigrants were born in the U.S. making them U.S. citizens by virtue of the 4th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

**America's Families and Living Arrangements: 2010** *Census Bureau*, November 2010.

The statistics.

## **Law & Justice**

**Drug Courts: Background, Effectiveness, and Policy** *Issues for Congress. CRS*, October 12, 2010.

Drug courts are specialized court dockets, or portions of judges' calendars of cases, that generally target nonviolent offenders with substance-abuse problems. These programs provide offenders with court supervision, drug testing, substance-abuse treatment, and other social services as an alternative to adjudication or incarceration. In this way, drug courts are designed to break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction, and crime by changing the behavior of substance-abusing offenders.

**Federal Justice Statistics, 2008 – Statistical Tables** *Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept of Justice, November 3, 2010.*

**Judicial Elections 2010: More States Join Trend of Costly Court Races** *Press release, Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, October 8, 2010.*

**Department of Homeland Security Counternarcotics Doctrine** *DHS, June 2010. 12p.*

**Paying Attention to Central America's Drug Trafficking Crisis** *by Kevin Casas-Zamora. Brookings, October 27, 2010.*

**The President - Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010: "An Historic Step"** *White House, December 18, 2010.*

President Obama releases a statement on the *Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010*, following the Senate's historic step toward ending a policy that "undermines our national security."

**HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse** *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services, December 1, 2010. 4p.*

**Visa Waiver Program** *CRS, October 28, 2010.*

**Most Air Travelers OK Sacrificing Privacy for Security** *Gallup, November 23, 2010.*

**Changes in Airport Passenger Screening Technologies and Procedures: FAQs** *CRS, Nov., 23, 2010.*

## **Children & Youth**

**Survey of Young Americans' Attitudes towards Politics and Public Service**: 18<sup>th</sup> Edition. *Institute of Politics, Harvard University, October 21, 2010. 16p.*

**Drivers Aged 16 or 17 Years Involved in Fatal Crashes: United States, 2004-2008**. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, October 22, 2010.*

**Efficacy of Schoolwide Programs to Promote Social and Character Development and Reduce Problem Behavior in Elementary School Children** *National Center for Education Research, U.S. Dept of Education, October 2010 (with links to the report).*

## **Aging, Retirement & Disability:**

**Unemployment Statistics on Older Americans** *Urban Institute Program on Retirement Policy, November 2010. 11p.*

**Aging in Place 2.0: Rethinking Solutions to the Home Care Challenge** *MetLife, September 2010. Full Report 34p.*

**Early Boomers: How America's Baby Boomers Will Transform Aging, Work and Retirement** *MetLife Mature Market Institute, September 2010. 26p.*

**Guardianships: Cases of Financial Exploitation, Neglect, and Abuse of Seniors** *GAO, Sept., 2010.*

**Action on Social Security: The Urgent Need for Delay** *by Dean Baker. Center for Economic and Policy Research, November 2010. 9p.*

## **Law Enforcement:**

**Identity-Related Crime: A Threat Assessment** *A Report to the Attorney General of the United States and the Minister of Public Safety of Canada, November 2010. 30p.*

**Long-Term Effects of Law Enforcement's Post-9/11 Focus on Counterterrorism and Homeland Security** *RAND, October 2010. Note: 177p. Summary / News Release*

## EDUCATION

**Transforming American Education: Learning Powered by Technology** National Education Technology Plan 2010. *U.S. Dept of Education*, November 2010.

This Plan calls for applying the advanced technologies used in daily lives to the entire education system to improve student learning, accelerate and scale up the adoption of effective practices, and use data and information for improvement. It presents five goals with recommendations for states, districts, the federal government, and other stakeholders: *Learning, Assessment, Teaching, Infrastructure, and Productivity*.

**Federal Overreach into American Higher Education** by Matthew Denhart. *Heritage*, November 4, 2010.

If allowed to take effect, three regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Education will raise costs for students and limit educational opportunities. These regulations would require state authorization of higher education institutions, impose gainful employment requirements, and dictate a one-size-fits-all definition of a credit hour. Denhart suggests that instead of restricting competition in higher education and discouraging innovation, the Education Department should explore fresh ideas in measuring educational outcomes and improving quality.

**100 Incredibly Useful YouTube Channels for Teachers** – annotated list compiled by *Online College Courses* website.

YouTube has earned a certain reputation. But for every participant liberally dishing out misspelled racist, sexist and homophobic talking points, there is at least one whose channel genuinely offers something provocative and educational. For teachers hoping to *infuse multimedia into their classrooms*, YouTube makes for an excellent starting point.

### **Online Education Degree Vs Traditional Classroom Settings**

Online degrees have always been regarded as inferior to university or college education due to lack of face to face interaction between student and teacher. Currently, it is rapidly gaining popularity and the view towards this type of education is increasingly positive.

**Characteristics of the 100 Largest Public Elementary and Secondary School Districts in the U.S.: 2008–09. Statistical Analysis** November 2010. 83p.

Highlights include the 100 largest public school districts, representing less than 1% of all school districts in the U.S. and jurisdictions, were responsible for the education of 22% of all public school students; the 100 largest public school districts employed 22% public school full-time-equivalent (*FTE*) teaching positions; and the majority of students in the 100 largest school districts were Hispanic or Black (63%).

### ***Some educational resources which may be of interest:***

**Remarks to the Young Leaders Dialogue Conference** Remarks by U.S. Under Secretary of State Judith A. McHale, in Prague, November 11, 2010.

**Making Invisible Students Visible** by Richard Kahlenberg. *Chronicle of Higher Education* online, December 3, 2010 (provision for low-income, first-generation and minority students).

**Class Differences: Online Learning in the United States, 2010** Babson Survey Research Group & the Sloan Consortium, November 2010. 30p. **Summary**

**U.S. Students Study in Growing Number of Countries and in Less Traditional Locations** *U.S. Dept of State*, November 15, 2010. See also the **Open Doors** report

**A Call for Change: The Social and Educational Factors Contributing to the Outcomes of Black Males in Urban Schools** *Council of the Great City Schools*, October 2010. Note: 120p.



## **BUSINESS /LABOR**

**Identifying the Right Skills and Expertise for the Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Where to Find Them? How to Retain Them?** IAEA Safeguards Symposium, Vienna 1-5, 2010 by Pierre Goldschmidt . November 2010. 4p.

The expansion of nuclear energy worldwide will raise considerable challenges not only for the nuclear industry, but for IAEA member states and the Secretariat, especially in the areas of nuclear safety, safeguards, and security. In addressing the *IAEA November 2010 Symposium on International Safeguards* in Vienna, Pierre Goldschmidt discusses the major safeguards challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century associated with the verification of an increasing number of complex nuclear facilities as well as new disarmament commitments.

**Jobs Climb Higher on Americans' Top Problems List** *Gallup*, November 16, 2010.

It's the first time since April that mentions of jobs/unemployment have outpaced mentions of the economy in general when Americans are asked to name the top problem facing the nation. The employment situation and economic conditions have been the two most frequently mentioned problems in Gallup's monthly updates all year, generally followed by healthcare and dissatisfaction with government.

**EEOC Explores Plight of Older Workers in Current Economic Climate** *U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)*, November 17, 2010.

Evidence shows that age discrimination is causing the nation's older workers to have a difficult time maintaining and finding new employment, a problem exacerbated by the downturn in the economy. A number of experts also testified on the impact of the economic crisis on older workers, the legal issues surrounding age discrimination today, and best practices to retain older workers.

**Jobs and Economic Security for America's Women** *White House, National Economic Council*, October 2010. 28p. **Summary**

**Women-Owned Businesses in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** *U.S. Dept of Commerce*, October 2010. 41p.

**Job Growth Improves, but Pace Leaves Full Employment 20 Years Away** *Economic Policy Institute*, November 5, 2010.

**The Ins and Outs of Unemployment Insurance** Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis, *Liber8 Economic Information Newsletter*, November 2010. 2p.

**The Opt-Out Revolution: Recent Trends in Female Labor Supply** by Heather Antecol, *Claremont McKenna College*, September 3, 2010. 41p.

**The Composition of the Unemployed and Long-Term Unemployed in Tough Labor Markets** *Monthly Labor Review*, October 2010.

**Entrepreneurs of Necessity** Blog article by John Robertson, *Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta*, Nov., 9, 2010.

**The Impact of Broadband Speed and Price on Small Business** *U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)*, Office of Advocacy, November 2010. Note: 150p.

## **MEDIA**

**The Hamster Wheel** by Dean Starkman in *Columbia Journalism Review*, September/October.

Starkman believes that you can't actually measure journalism's quality; that's its tragic flaw and maybe saving grace. You can point to circulation or prizes, but journalism is more art than science. It's why quantity will always have an advantage over quality.

**Plugging the Gap** by Sherry Ricchiardi in *American Journalism Review*, Spring, 2010.

A former Tribune editor has a “Eureka moment” as Chicago’s struggling newspapers cut back on coverage. He and his “Trib” refugees have emerged to pursue public service journalism. Its premier client: the *New York Times*.

**Too Graphic?** by Arielle Emmett in *American Journalism Review*, Spring, 2010.

Emmett ponders that in the wake of the Haiti earthquake have American newspapers overcome their inhibitions so that we are becoming insensitive to viewing pictures of body corpses and severed body parts.

**Traffic Jam** by Lucas Graves in *Columbia Journalism Review*, September/October.

If you look at online audience size, Nielsen’s ratings are better than nothing at all, and that’s what radio or TV broadcasting offers: no way to detect whether 5,000 people tuned in, or 5 million. With nothing to go on, accuracy matters less than consensus.

**Against the Grain** by Bret Schulte in *American Journalism Review*, Spring, 2010.

Whether it’s charging for online content, giving away classifieds, engaging in - and winning - a brutally expensive newspaper war with Gannett or doubling down on print when others are fleeing, Walter E. Hussman Jr. has never shied away from the contrarian approach.

**Science and the Media** *American Academy of Arts & Sciences*, August 2010. Note: 109p.

Scientific illiteracy has deep and wide implications for public policy in the U.S. and around the world. Having a minority in a democracy conversant with science and technology produces a low level of public discussion and makes for impoverished policy-making. On issues of great public import, from energy policy to climate change, from how to teach evolution to fighting disease, a lack of scientific knowledge undermines progress.

## SCIENCE

**The Latest from the Labs** by Edward Humes. *Sierra Club*, September/October 2010.

U.S. universities are on the forefront of innovation of clean fuels: turning barnyard waste into biogas at Western Washington University; making microbial biofuels with electricity-eating bacteria at the University of Massachusetts; synthetic trees that scrub carbon dioxide from the air at Columbia University; and smaller, more powerful batteries at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The author also looks at environmental “techno-fails” such as cold fusion, off-shore drilling and the internal combustion engine.

**Statement by President Obama on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Crews Aboard the International Space Station** *White House*, November 2, 2010.

**International Cooperation: Furthering U.S. National Space Policy** Remarks by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Frank A. Rose at USSTRATCOM Space Symposium, in Omaha, November 2, 2010.

**Household Food Security in the United States, 2009** *Economic Research Service, USDA*, Nov., 2010. 68p.

**Live Animal Imports: Agencies Need Better Collaboration to Reduce the Risk of Animal-Related Diseases** *U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)*, November 2010. **Summary**

**Overview of the United States Dairy Industry** *U.S. Dept of Agriculture*, September 22, 2010. 13p.

## COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Harnessing Social Media** by Stephanie Gleeson in *American Journalism Review*, Spring, 2010.

With more than 400 million active users, *Facebook* celebrated its 6<sup>th</sup> birthday in February. And while sites like *NYTimes.com* and *CNN.com* experienced a decline in the number of unique visitors last year, *Twitter's* total increased by almost 300%. While journalism’s future is uncertain, it is clear that social networking is booming.

**The Web Means the End of Forgetting** by Jeffrey Rosen in the *New York Times Magazine*, July 25'10. 9p.

The author, a professor at George Washington University, notes that legal scholars, technologists and cyber thinkers are wrestling with the first great existential crisis of the digital age - the impossibility of erasing your posted past. For most users, this includes regrettable activities or photographs posted on sites such as *Facebook* and *MySpace* that are now an embarrassment. But how to do this? Cyberlaw expert Jonathan Zittrain believes that the law should permit people to declare 'reputation bankruptcy' every decade or so, wiping out certain categories of personal information online, especially if it can be viewed by future employers. The University of Washington's Rosen has found a solution.

**Exploring the Digital Nation: Home Broadband Internet Adoption in the United States** *U.S. Dept of Commerce*, November 2010. 68p.

A new report looks at home broadband adoption, providing "authoritative, nationally-comprehensive data on access to the Internet throughout the U.S., and shows how people's use of the Internet is growing and changing.

**Use of the Internet in Higher-Income Households** by Jim Hansen. *Pew Internet & American Life Project*, November 24, 2010. 13p.

According to the report, almost all Americans who live in households earning \$75,000 or more a year use the internet compared with 70% of those with less income. The well-off are also more likely to own and use various types of technology.

**President Obama Presents the National Medals of Science and National Medals of Technology and Innovation** *White House*, November 17, 2010.

The President recognizes the achievements of the men and women who are onstage today stand as a testament to the ingenuity, to their zeal for discovery, and to the willingness to give of themselves and to sacrifice in order to expand the reach of human understanding. All of us have benefited from their work. The scientists in this room helped develop the semiconductors and microprocessors that have propelled the Information Age. They've modeled the inner workings of the human mind and the complex processes that shape the Earth's climate. They've conducted pioneering research, from mathematics to quantum physics, into the sometimes strange and unexpected laws that govern our universe."

**Digital Keys For Unlocking the Humanities Riches** on *New York Times* online, November 16, 2010. See also **Digging into Data Challenge**

## **THE ARTS & CULTURE**

**2010 White House Tribal Nations Conference – President Obama's Remarks** *White House*, December 16, 2010. **Read / Listen / View** – Opening Session

**Announcement of U.S. Support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** Media note, *U.S. Dept of State*, December 16, 2010.

**A Living Legacy: Preserving Intangible Culture** e-journal *U.S. Dept. of State*, November.

The cultural heritage of the U.S. is rich, diverse and grounded in the contributions of many peoples. It includes indigenous Native American culture and tradition and spans the customs, culture and art of immigrant groups who have settled in the U.S. over past centuries. Many tangible expressions of this cultural patrimony are protected in museums, galleries, and other publicly and privately supported institutions. But no museum can preserve less tangible forms of cultural expression as effectively as those who perform them. American culture remains vibrant and of global interest precisely because men and women in every part of the nation preserve intangible forms of artistic cultural expression by living them.

**The Beats: Pictures of a Legend** by Edmund White in the *New York Review of Books*, August 19, 2010.

This review of the catalog for Beat poet Allen Ginsberg's photographs, exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., discusses the Beats as self-described legendary geniuses, and the role of Ginsberg, who visually chronicled them. Ginsberg's fame was as a poet, but financial necessity later in life caused him to market his candid photos of friends Jack Kerouac, William Burroughs, Neal Cassidy, and others. These photos show the subjects in youth, decline and old age, capturing glimpses of their personalities. The Beats wrote about each other's exploits in a myth-making manner, prizing spontaneity in life and art.

**Honoring Outstanding Museums and Libraries** – Michelle Obama *The White House*, December, 2010.  
**Listen**

Examples of excellence – so many stories – and it's not just about the books on their shelves or items in their exhibits.

**First-Ever National Study: Millions of People Rely on Library Computers for Employment, Health, and Education** *University of Washington*, April 10, 2010.

Nearly one-third of Americans age 14 or older – roughly 77 million people – used a public library computer or wireless network to access the Internet in the past year, according to a national report. See also: **Opportunity for All: How the American Public Benefits from Internet Access at U.S. Libraries: The U.S. IMPACT Study** *Information School*, University of Washington, March 2010. Note: 212p.

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**\* Ambassador Huebner's Holiday Message *contd.***

librarians, poets, international policy strategists, the head of the National Science Foundation, Secretary of the Navy, Special Representative to Muslim Communities, head of the National Council on Competitiveness, and dozens of scientists, trade specialists, and security experts.

Among all that activity, a couple of highlights particularly stand out:

First, we brought more than 50 students from our various university-based American Ambassador Advisors groups to Wellington in October for our first-ever *Connecting Young Leaders* conference. The weekend conference exemplified what we are hoping to accomplish – bring dynamic open minds together, stimulate discussion, examine different opinions and perspectives, find common ground, seed new networks, and lay a foundation for mutual respect and understanding.

Second, we took time to celebrate Thanksgiving in the traditional American way. My visiting in-laws, my Embassy colleagues, Dr. McWaine, and I served a full Thanksgiving dinner to approximately 200 homeless and under-privileged persons at the Downtown Community Ministry in Wellington. Dr. McWaine and I then hosted a bevy of Fulbright Scholars, the Fulbright NZ board, and our Embassy Marines to an authentic down-South Thanksgiving feast at our Residence that included turkey, stuffing, yams, red velvet cake, pecan pie, and the famous McWaine monkey bread.

Amidst all the hustle, bustle, and fuss of daily life ... amidst the piffle ... amidst the frequent feelings of being underwater or struggling through waste-high tar ... it is important to pause to consider what really matters. To ponder the values that give life meaning. To give thanks for the blessings we enjoy. And to share those blessings with others.

So, I have stepped briefly out of the swirling cloud and pondered where we stand as 2010 hurtles to a close. I can make two assertions without fear of contradiction: The year we are leaving behind has been an extraordinarily exciting and productive adventure, and I intend to do my best to insure that 2011 is even more exciting and productive.

Dr. McWaine and I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Eid Mubarak, Happy Kwanzaa, and a healthy, joyous, and peaceful New Year.

